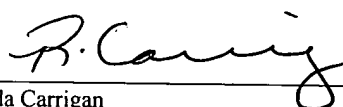


EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above paper/fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **April 1, 2004**, Express Mail No. **EV388027180US**. Signature of Person mailing paper/fee:


Rhonda Carrigan

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Date: April 1, 2004

Thomas E. DOWDY

Confirmation No.: To Be Assigned

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: **TRANSPARENT COMPATIBILITY AND ADAPTATION TO DIFFERING
FORMAT IMPLEMENTATIONS IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM**

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4
of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.